

Notes and News.

ENTOMOLOGICAL GLEANINGS FROM ALL QUARTERS OF THE GLOBE.

Entomologists in the War Zone.

A letter from Dr. Karl Jordan, dated Tring, April 8, 1915, to Dr. Henry Skinner, states that Dr. Walther Horn, Dr. H. Schouteden and M. Guillaume Severin are well and at their posts in their respective museums (Berlin-Dahlem, Tervueren and Brussels.) The writer had been unable to get into communication with Dr. Anton Handlirsch in Vienna.

A Mistake of a Butterfly (Lep.).

Mr. E. E. Barnard writes in *Nature*, April 15, 1915, that, while looking at a bright-colored "eye" of a peacock's feather in the band of a man's hat, he saw a butterfly floating above. It suddenly alighted on the "eye" and apparently began trying to extract food from it. After several minutes it flew away as if satisfied that it had made a mistake. It was evidently guided entirely by sight in seeking food in this case.

Cerambycid in Bedstead (Col.).

Recently one of my students brought in a larva which he found working in the bedstead in his room. The larva had bored into the rail, apparently from the inside, and was still working when found. It was evidently a Cerambycid, but in order to determine the species, the specimen was sent to Dr. L. O. Howard at Washington, who writes that Mr. F. C. Craighead, Specialist of Forest Insects, identified it as the larva of *Eburia 4-geminata* Say. This insect commonly feeds in seasoned oak, ash, hickory, etc., but the interesting question about this particular case is when did the larva get into the bed rail and how long has it been there?

In tracing the history of the bed, I find that the present owner purchased it in LaFayette nearly twenty years ago, and it has been in constant use since that time. Another board in the bedstead shows unmistakable signs of having been "worm eaten" when put into the bed, and that would seem to indicate that these eggs were laid before the lumber was worked up. If so, this larva is at least twenty years old. Dr. Lintner makes mention, in his Fourth Report, of instances where members of this family have been known to escape from furniture many years after the furniture was made up, and while it is generally known that the absence of moisture and lack of air, caused by polishing and varnishing of the lumber, will retard the rapidity of development of the larvae of borers to a certain extent, it hardly seems possible that the larval period would be prolonged for eighteen or twenty years, as in this case; and yet I cannot account for it in any other way, as the excavations all indicate that they were made from the inside. This species is quite rare in Indiana, and is the only species of *Eburia* found in the State.—J. TROOP, Purdue University, LaFayette, Indiana.